

TIMES AND TRAILS

People, Projects and Priorities at Environment and Conservation

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November 2007

In Vision

Environment and Conservation employees:

As a cabinet member for the past two years, I have seen Governor Bredesen develop a variety of innovative approaches to solve complex problems in areas like health care, education and conservation. Our governor believes in public-private partnerships and leveraging shared resources toward common goals.

This commitment to partnerships is particularly true when it comes to protecting special places in Tennessee for current and future generations. Earlier this month, I joined Governor Bredesen and our partners at The Nature Conservancy to celebrate a series of complex transactions that will protect connected forestland in four counties on the Northern Cumberland Plateau. The North Cumberlands Acquisition is a \$135 million total investment that encompasses more than 127,000 acres on the Cumberland Plateau, stretching across Anderson, Campbell, Morgan and Scott counties. It's an area appropriately known as the "Heart of the Cumberlands," and it is considered one of the most ecologically significant places left on Earth.

This public-private partnership allowed us to leverage resources to do more with less. The state, through a one-time appropriation approved by the General Assembly, invested \$82 million. Conservation Forestry and Lyme Timber, two forestland investment companies that seek properties with high conservation values, contributed about \$40 million, and The Nature Conservancy contributed \$13 million to make this unprecedented conservation project possible.

The state's \$82 million conservation investment in the Northern Cumberlands is the largest of its kind in state history and the largest conservation appropriation by any one state in recent years. This is landscape conservation that will protect majestic woodlands, including important forests, mountains, streams and wildlife habitat. It will enhance tourism, protect unique forms of wildlife, offer opportunities for managed public access and incorporate working forest easements to benefit local economies. I am particularly pleased this North Cumberlands Acquisition contains more than 10,000 acres along the Emory River adjacent to Frozen Head State Park, including Love and Bird Mountains. These parcels were under particular stress from potential development and have been a major concern for a long time.

I am grateful for all the partners that made it possible to conserve these ecologically significant lands across this unique region. There is no doubt this landmark initiative will make a real and lasting difference for Tennessee and the entire landscape of the Cumberland Plateau.



Commissioner Jim Fyke

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim".

Tennessee selected for \$200,000 EPA Innovation Grant

Environment and Conservation has been selected to receive a State Innovation Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to fund the first phase of Tennessee's Construction Storm Water Excellence Initiative. This national award will provide \$200,000 for a four-year storm water project to help local municipalities establish an integrated approach to water resources management for the benefit of water quality. "Environment and Conservation is committed to the protection and improvement of Tennessee's rivers and streams," TDEC Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan said. "This grant will help us work with local communities to integrate education, low-impact development and storm water management techniques in ways that will enhance our water quality."

Storm water runoff can affect the quantity and quality of water far from its source. As storm water flows through streets, residential lots and open spaces, it carries dirt, oil, pesticides and other substances to nearby waterways. The effects of this process are heightened when storm water runs through construction sites, where large quantities of soil, and even building materials and potentially hazardous chemicals can be washed away. These substances can pose a significant threat to Tennessee's water resources, damaging wildlife habitats and affecting drinking water sources.

The department's Construction Storm Water Initiative seeks to prevent such contamination by building partnerships with local communities and helping them develop comprehensive strategies to manage their water resources. This emphasis on prevention is supported by the department's focus on innovation in its permitting process for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). Storm water discharges from municipalities of a certain size are required to obtain coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit and to implement a set of programs to manage the quality of storm water runoff from the storm sewer systems.

The initiative will allow Environment and Conservation to create an awards program to recognize excellence in local storm sewer systems and provide opportunities for these systems to assume full responsibility for plans review and permitting. The department also will work closely with local communities to educate and regulate builders, ensuring that strong erosion prevention and sediment control programs are in place. "This initiative is a key element to the department's overall storm water management efforts," said Sloan. "The department has made significant progress in the area of construction storm water, with the establishment of a statewide storm water coordinator, expanded sediment and erosion control training programs and nearly 30 new positions created to further support this area. This grant from EPA will allow us to continue to build on that progress for the benefit of water quality in Tennessee."

More information about storm water permitting can be found on the department's Water Pollution Control Web site.

About Storm Water

Storm water is a leading cause of water pollution.

In most communities storm water drains flow directly into rivers and streams.

One gallon of oil in a storm drain can pollute up to one million gallons of water.



Above and below: Local officials with the Hamilton County Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) are in the field checking compliance with prescribed erosion prevention and sediment control practices. This special MS4 district covers eight small municipalities in Hamilton County all working together under one MS4 permit.



KY-TN Green Development Conference
February 24-26, 2008

DOE-Oversight participates in 2007 Oak Ridge Regional Emergency Management Forum

More than 200 people attended the 2007 Oak Ridge Regional Emergency Management Forum on Oct. 18. Previously reserved for emergency management professionals, this year's forum was opened to the public with the theme, "Emergency Management, Preparing the Community." Representatives from various Oak Ridge Reservation sites, the Department of Homeland Security and Local Emergency Planning Committees led a variety of sessions. Extensive outdoor exhibits were also provided by the Department of Energy, the Tennessee Environmental Management Agency along with local emergency management and law enforcement units.

TDEC's DOE-Oversight division hosted a booth at this year's forum and joined the Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration, TEMA and several local agencies as part of the forum steering committee. For more information on the 2007 Forum click here [contact Bud Yard](#) at the DOE-Oversight office at (865) 481-0995.



Chris Davis, American Red Cross (left), stops at the DOE-Oversight booth during the Oak Ridge Regional Emergency Management Forum. Bud Yard, TDEC DOE-Oversight division (right) hosted the booth.

Department employee wins honors at East Tennessee GIS conference

Natalie Pheasant, Environmental Specialist 3 with the DOE-Oversight Office in Oak Ridge, won top honors in a poster contest held during the East Tennessee Regional Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Users Conference. The October GIS conference in Pigeon Forge brought together professionals from around the region. Pheasant, also a student at Roane State Community College, created a poster featuring "Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas within a 100-Mile Radius of Knoxville." GIS is a growing field that involves using specialized hardware and software to collect, analyze and display a wide variety of geographic information. Roane State offers a technical certificate and an associate of applied science degree in GIS. "Natalie is a multi-talented individual working on a variety of activities in the DOE-Oversight Office, including interaction with EPA on their RadNet Program, project development, sampling and emergency management," said Bud Yard, Radiological Monitoring and Oversight Program manager in the DOE-Oversight Office. "She uses these GIS skills in our office and in support of TEMA's Environmental Monitoring Control Center in Knoxville during emergency situations. We congratulate her on this well deserved award."



Natalie Pheasant, TDEC employee in the DOE-Oversight Office and Roane State Community College student, recently won first-place honors in a poster contest held as part of the East Tennessee Regional GIS Users Conference.



TDEC Celebrates GIS Day 2007

The department celebrated Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day 2007 on November 19. The GIS Day celebration hosted a variety of map displays and GIS software demonstrations provided by department divisions. Presentations were given by Elaine Foust, Division of Geology and Richard Cochran, Division of Water Pollution. For GIS related business in the department contact Gayle Moore. Gayle may be reached by phone at (615) 532-0148 or email gayle.moore@state.tn.us. Gayle's office is on the 16th floor of the L&C Tower in Nashville.

State and students benefit from new Tennessee Youth Conservation Corps program

More than 100 participants working on 16 different crews participated in the first summer of the Tennessee Youth Conservation Corps (TYCC). TYCC provided a variety of meaningful learning and work experiences while also completing a number of significant conservation projects that benefit Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas.

TYCC accomplishments included the reconstruction and furnishing of an 18th century military barracks at Fort Loudoun State Park. This restoration involved stonemason work, framing the building with oak timbers, applying clapboard siding, and roofing with wooden shakes. The completed barracks building will join other reconstructed structures at Fort Loudoun to make this location a premier interpretive site for frontier colonial life before the War of American Independence. "The Fort Loudoun TYCC crew delivered high quality work that was worth thousands of dollars to our state park," said Jeff Wells, Fort Loudoun State Park manager.

TYCC crew members at Cumberland Trail State Park worked to improve access at this linear park while also helping to capture the distinctive regional culture across the plateau. Participants there provided miles of maintenance on Black Mountain, Laurel Snow, Rock Creek and Possum Creek trails while also building a major walkway on Black Mountain. Another Cumberland Trail crew focused on the historical and cultural uniqueness of the Trail by documenting and recording historic interviews, photographs and local music. Hundreds of audio reels, cassettes and CDs representing traditional mountain life were completed and turned over to the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

TYCC placed special emphasis on developing a strong program at urban state parks, including T.O. Fuller, Booker T. Washington and Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Parks. Crew members at these locations built new trails, created landscaping and added playgrounds while getting exposure to different conservation activities. "TYCC at T.O. Fuller was a wonderful work experience for young people from the city of Memphis," said Debbie DuGard, TYCC supervisor and community advocate. "I saw kids from an urban environment move from hesitation to a sense of anticipation about being active in the natural world. The state park staff was great too. Each of the rangers from T.O. Fuller pitched in to help the TYCC participants as they planted new flower beds, refurbished an amphitheater and renovated popular trails at our urban park."

"The success of this first year is due in large part to the commitment, energy and hard work of each TYCC participant – including students and the department staff that trained and supervised TYCC crews," said Mark Stanfill, TYCC manager. "I also want to express my appreciation to everyone at Environment and Conservation that helped with the development and logistics of the TYCC program through its first year. I think we are definitely on the way to having the kind of program Governor Bredesen envisioned when he shared his idea for the Tennessee Youth Conservation Corps with Commissioner Fyke."



About TYCC

The Tennessee Youth Conservation Corps was proposed by Governor Phil Bredesen and approved by the Tennessee General Assembly in 2006. This initiative is designed to reflect the governor's vision of having a program that engages and equips young people with a hands-on conservation experience at Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas. The program promotes the principles of effective conservation by providing young people with a variety of natural resource management and restoration projects on state owned lands. Projects for 2008 should be chosen and posted to the TYCC Web page by January 2008. Applications for each project location will be accepted through the TYCC Page Application will be accepted soon afterward. Photos and project descriptions from the first year of TYCC are posted to the TYCC Web page



*The Booker T. Washington State Park
TYCC team visits Fort Loudoun State Park.*

State Parks' Volunteer Friends gather for fourth Annual Conference

Friends groups from twenty-three Tennessee State Parks were represented during the 2007 Friends Conference held September 21-23 at Montgomery Bell State Park. This fourth annual gathering for Friends of Tennessee State Parks featured topics on compliance required for 501(c)3 tax-exempt organizations, grant writing, how to run effective meetings and a brief history of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Attendees also had the chance to tour the Drouillard House in Cumberland Furnace and hike Bon Aqua Woods, a new state natural area outside of Dickson. Environment and Conservation Commissioner Fyke addressed conference participants on September 22 and shared the department's appreciation for the Friends support of their state parks. He also requested the Friends' assistance in helping Tennessee State Parks communicate our message to elected officials in the General Assembly. State Parks Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton took this opportunity to thank the Friends and stress the importance of these groups to our overall state parks system. Mike encouraged Friends members to work closely with their park management to ensure that their shared mission is accomplished. "Friends members are grateful the department hosts this annual conference," said Fount Bertram, Friends of Edgar Evins State Park president. "It gives each group a broader, state-wide perspective; we realize we are not alone and are able to assist each other with common problems and solutions. We leave the conference with the feeling we are appreciated and a play a vital part in making our parks the best they can be."



Friends Groups, and conference participants end the event with a group photo.

Tennessee history comes alive at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park

More than 6,000 park visitors took advantage of clear blue skies and acres of living history during the fourth annual Tennessee's History Festival at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park on October 12 and 13, 2007. This festival draws history enthusiasts able to present correct period dress, materials and activities that reflect an authentic Tennessee throughout centuries of time.

Participation and attendance at the festival continues to grow. "We pre-registered over 1,300 students on Friday alone this year," said Bicentennial Mall State Park Ranger and event organizer Harry Hampton. "Those student totals help push our attendance past the 5,000 mark we set last year. From an organizer's stand point, it is rewarding to see so many come out to our park to interact with more than 300 years of Tennessee history."

Visitors to the park's living history timeline observed new performances in 2007 from Native Americans at the Cherokee Trail of Tears section, a Korean War Display, a group of Flint Nappers from Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area and a "Black Powder Throughout The Ages" Firing Demonstration. Popular performances returning to the Tennessee timeline included:

- ◆ Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Area
- ◆ Hernando de Soto
- ◆ Woodland Indians
- ◆ Fort Loudoun State Historic Area
- ◆ Tellico Blockhouse
- ◆ Mansker's Station
- ◆ War of 1812 and President Andrew Jackson
- ◆ Mexican War
- ◆ Civil War and 19th Century Civilian Tent City
- ◆ Confederate Spy-Sam Davis
- ◆ President Abraham Lincoln
- ◆ Spanish-American War Display
- ◆ 1920's Suffragette
- ◆ World War I Hero Alvin C. York
- ◆ Civilian Conservation Corps
- ◆ Cordell Hull State Park
- ◆ World War II Mock Battle and Display
- ◆ Vietnam War Display
- ◆ Desert Storm Display



To view a photo gallery from Tennessee's History Festival and learn more about these pictures [click here](#).



Commissioners speak at Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee

Commissioner Fyke and Deputy Commissioner Sloan were featured speakers at the Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee held November 15-17 at Lipscomb University in Nashville. Jointly hosted by the Tennessee Environmental Council and Tennessee Conservation Voters, the meeting was designed for individuals and organization representatives that want to be more effective in promoting sustainable principles and results across business, educational, political and community platforms. More than 150 participants representing 70 organizations attended the meeting dedicated to setting a shared sustainability agenda for Tennessee.

Commissioner Fyke took this opportunity to share the department's conservation achievements and to recognize Tennessee State Parks selection as winner of the 2007 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park Management. "In just four years, we have moved from budget crises, closed parks and restrictive access fees to a vibrant state park system recognized for exceptional environmental stewardship, expanded programs and deep public support," Fyke said. "This recognition brings national attention to what many of us have known for a long time: Tennessee State Parks are great places to experience nature and enjoy life."

Deputy Commissioner Sloan thanked the event organizers and offered guidance to summit attendees as they worked with TDEC and other agencies on sustainability issues. "There is tremendous stress in our daily lives and on our shared environment," noted Sloan. "This pressure is one of the reasons why I appreciate the individuals and organizations represented in this room – and the bold vision for this gathering. I strongly support constructive approaches and thoughtful actions that will protect our environment today for the benefit of future generations. I challenge this group to identify specific actions or projects that will hit the ground and make a difference. We all need to produce meaningful, lasting results from time that we are spending here."

Summit participants met for two days to produce a list of priorities and action steps to support sustainability across the environment, economy and overall quality of life for Tennessee. Organizers plan to hold four regional forums across state throughout 2008 to follow up on the priorities and agenda items identified at the summit. More information is available at www.sustainabletn.org.

TDEC and state named EPA WasteWise Partner of the Year again

State Employee Recycling Program coordinator George Kesterson celebrated America Recycles Day on November 15 in a big way. While attending the annual national EPA WasteWise conference in Washington, D.C., George was also able to represent the department as TDEC and SERP received the EPA WasteWise Partner of the Year Award in the state government category.

With nearly 32,000 state employees and more than 100 state buildings participating, SERP's comprehensive waste reduction program annually saves more than \$45,000 in disposal costs and receives more than \$30,000 in recycling revenue. This is the fifth year in a row that TDEC and SERP have been chosen EPA WasteWise Partner of the Year. The program continues to merit this national recognition by expanding the number of state facilities it serves and growing its collection stream of recyclable materials, particularly aluminum and plastics.

"It's an honor for TDEC and SERP to receive this award from EPA five years running," said Commissioner Jim Fyke. "TDEC and the state strive to lead by example, and we don't intend to rest on past accomplishments. This year's SERP goals are to recycle 1,450,000 pounds of mixed office paper, 2,800 pounds of aluminum and 1,900 pounds of plastic."

WasteWise is a voluntary partnership program launched by EPA in 1994. The program provides guidance and recognition to more than 1,500 participating organizations working to find practical methods to reduce municipal solid waste and improve financial performance.



State Employee Recycling Program
(615) 532-0079

About SERP

The SERP program is recycling at a rate of 70.52 tons of office paper per month, saving the state over \$2,115.00 monthly in landfill costs. From January 1, 1990 to December 31, 2006 state employees recycled 14,386.8 tons of mixed office paper. This produced revenue of \$116,040.84 for the state, while avoiding \$431,604.00 in landfill costs. These revenues are deposited in the Solid Waste Management Fund.

State Parks holds park managers workshop; celebrates national award

Tennessee State Parks annual managers conference was held at Montgomery Bell State Park on October 22-24. The program offered update sessions on human resource, financial and risk management topics for managers from each of the 54 state parks and central office staff. A special workshop on effective media communications featuring Mimi Bliss was particularly helpful for parks leadership.

A highlight of the meeting was the October 22 celebration dinner where Commissioner Jim Fyke and Assistant Commissioner for State Parks and Conservation Mike Carlton presented two special awards. This year the Tennessee State Parks' Lifetime Achievement Award went to **Ted Murdock** and **Charlie Tate**. Both Ted and Charlie were honored with a photo retrospective of their career and thanked for many years of dedicated service to state parks.

The banquet also allowed Commissioner Fyke to share his personal experience from Indianapolis when Tennessee State Parks was selected to receive the 2007 National Recreation and Park Association Gold Medal for Excellence. "Our selection as best in the nation is due, in large part, to our people – especially the outstanding professionals and staff that make our parks excel," noted Commissioner Fyke. "I have seen an outstanding personal commitment to parks professionalism, natural resource protection and customer service across our entire staff over the past four years. From rangers offering unique interpretative programs and leading guided trail hikes to courteous, efficient staff at inns and restaurants, our people exemplify the beauty and diversity of our state parks."

The significant role parks managers played in achieving this national recognition was acknowledged as Commissioner Fyke and Mike Carlton presented each park manager with a commemorative plaque from Governor Bredesen. "Much of the credit for this award should go to the hard-working employees of the state park system and to the administration for trusting park professionals and career park employees to bring the system back to prominence," said Mike Carlton.



Commissioner Jim Fyke (left) and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton (right) present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Ted Murdock (center) at the recent State Parks celebration dinner. Always smiling and cheerful, Ted has been a long-time asset for State Parks in a variety of leadership positions.



Commissioner Jim Fyke (left) and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton (right) enjoy a laugh when presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Director of Natural and Cultural Resource Management director Charlie Tate (center). From increased trail building to improved interpretive programming, Charlie has left a significant legacy across Tennessee State Parks.



Commissioner Fyke and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton present Warriors' Path State Park manager Jerry Adams (center) with a plaque from Governor Bredesen celebrating Tennessee State Parks' 70th Anniversary and receiving the 2007 NRPA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park Management.



Commissioner Fyke and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton present Sycamore Shoals State Park manager Jennifer Bauer (center) with a plaque from Governor Bredesen celebrating Tennessee State Parks' 70th Anniversary and receiving the 2007 NRPA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park Management.



Commissioner Fyke and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton present Pickett State Park manager Alan Wasik (center) with a plaque from Governor Bredesen celebrating Tennessee State Parks' 70th Anniversary and receiving the 2007 NRPA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park Management.

Mark Your Calendar



The Carter House State Historic Site in Franklin will host an unveiling ceremony for their new Interpretive Center and Museum Project on Friday, Nov. 30, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. CST at the Optimist Club Gymnasium on 1116 Columbia Avenue. Honored guests and local officials will see the plans for a new Carter House Museum and Interpretive Center scheduled to open in the coming year.

Christmas on the Mountain will be held at Fall Creek Falls State Park, December 7 through December 9. A weekend of Yuletide fun features activities for children and adults including a 2-day mountain craft show. For more information contact Matthew Brown at (423) 881-5708.

4th Annual Homecoming Celebration will be held December 8 at Norris Dam State Park. Enjoy viewing historically themed cabins, horse-drawn wagon rides, bluegrass music, carolers and everyone's favorite, Santa Claus. For more information contact Mike Scott at (865) 426-7461.

Tennessee Employee Charitable Campaign finishes strong; TDEC beats goal

On Oct. 18 central office staff joined in the fun and fund-raising events to raise money for two TECC approved charities – Walden's Puddle and The Tennessee Environmental Council. Seven dollars given at the door not only supported these two worthy charities but also allowed participants to sample a variety of tasty chili and cookies and provided \$10 million in "Fyke Bucks" so each attendee could vote for their favorite chili maker and cookie baker.

More than forty employees signed up for the contest. Lively boasts of culinary prowess were heard as the friendly rivalry between cooks and bakers supplied an air of good natured competition. The Grand Prize winner of the Chili Cook-off was Jeff Ridings (Fiscal Services). Second place was awarded to Brenda Weatherby (Internal Audit), and third place went to Craig Morgan (Solid Waste Management). In the cookie category, Kim Bernal (Fiscal Services) won the Grand Prize, Ernestine Davis (UST) placed second, and Jackie Overholster (UST) was a strong show for third. Jeff and Kim's Grand Prize successes won each a two-night stay at the Tennessee State Park Inn of their choice.

Montgomery Bell State Park Inn staff provided the drinks, condiments and a special Chili recipe from manager Pam Barfield. In order to be fair, Montgomery Bell's chili was not entered in the competition, but it is obviously a drawing card for the park. Special music was provided by Chris Moran (leader and organizer), Joey Holland, Barbara Loudermilk, John Fuss, Stanley Patterson and Pat Childs. Supposedly this group had never played together, but it was evident there was some serious musical talent in the impromptu "Chris Moran Project." This successful event raised more than \$935.00, and all proceeds went directly to the two chosen charities. Final checks were presented to each organization on October 23.

Other events across the state that have raised money in support of TDEC employees or their family members include: The Columbia Environmental Field Office raised \$80 for Alive Hospice in memory of Robert Bryan "Skip" Rigsby in addition to the \$371.96 pledged during the TECC drive. The Cookeville Environmental Field Office raised over \$600 for fellow employee George "Jake" Allen and his family. This was in addition to their pledges to the TECC.

Our total 2007 pledge to the TECC was \$70,808.64 with 34 percent of TDEC employees participating. These are just a few of the stories of department people caring for others and our communities.



Paul Sloan receives Promethean Energy Award

On October 23, Environment and Conservation Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan received the Promethean Energy Award as an “Outstanding and Accessible Public Servant” from the Trust for the Future. Sloan, who serves as co-chair of Governor Bredesen’s Interagency Working Group on Alternative Fuels, accepted this award before a premier of Jeff Barrie’s new film “KilowattOurs: A Plan to Re-Energize America” at Lipscomb University in Nashville. The Promethean Energy Awards are presented to individuals in government, business and advocacy organizations advancing the idea that there are better solutions available to help society rise above our current energy challenges.



Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan and State Senator Rosalind Kurita both recieved awards at the Trust for the Future event.

Christi Poston selected State Records Officer of the Year

The Department of General Services has chosen Christi Poston, TDEC’s Records Officer, as the State of Tennessee Records Officer of the Year. Each year, General Services’ Division of Records Management selects the top performer from among 54 records officers in state government. Selection criteria for this recognition involve a range of factors that reflect the vitality of records management in an agency. These include a department’s track record in following standard practices regarding records disposition authorizations (RDAs), the appropriate use of document management techniques and resources, the completeness of required reports and participation in state training, education and innovation programs.

“It is quite an honor to be selected as the best among all records officers in state government,” said Tom Eck, TDEC Fiscal Services director. “Our department handles a tremendous volume of critical records, and Christi plays a key role in making sure TDEC is both efficient and effective when it comes to managing documents that the public depends on.”



Kem Allen, TDEC director of space and records management, congratulates Christi Poston, TDEC records officer, on being named State Records Officer of the Year.

Ranger Brent Measles runs Disney Marathon to fight disease

Fall Creek Falls State Park Ranger Brent Measles is preparing to run the 2008 Disney World marathon in Florida as part of his effort to increase awareness of Ataxia Telangiectasia and raise money for the A-T Children’s Project. Brent’s wife Scarlett suffers with Krabbe Luekodystrophy, a comparable disease to Ataxia Telangiectasia. In 1998, Scarlett underwent a bone marrow transplant that stopped the progression of her disease. You can learn more about this disease, the status of Brent’s marathon training and even sponsor him in this worthy cause on his Web page. The entire park family at Fall Creek Falls is energized by Brent’s determination to complete this marathon and create greater awareness regarding this disease. Go Brent!

Special “Buy 2, Get 1 Free” holiday promotion available to state employees

The Tennessee Conservationist is pleased to offer a special “Buy 2, Get 1 Free” (\$30) promotion available only to state employees. When you receive three subscriptions for the purchase price of two, you will realize a 33 percent savings off the standard one-year rate. We will also be pleased to send a special holiday gift card on your behalf to each person on your subscription list.

Giving The Tennessee Conservationist to important people in your life during this holiday season will allow you to share Tennessee’s treasures throughout 2008. Click here to take advantage of this special offer!



Times and Trails

November Service Anniversaries

5 Years

Abhay Narain, Nathan Bedford Forest State Park
Lewis Askins, Big Ridge State Park
Travis Bailey, Big Ridge State Park
Janice Lee, Panther Creek State Park
Mark Taylor, Edgar Evins State Park
Larry Cathey, Montgomery Bell State Park
Travis Blake, Air Pollution Control
Paul Higgins, Water Pollution Control
Chip Hannah, Water Pollution Control
Angela Young, Water Pollution Control, Chattanooga EFO
Matthew Rosta, Water Pollution Control, Memphis EFO

10 Years

Heather Weldon, Fiscal Services
Sherry Johnson, Panther Creek State Park
James Schuman, Red Clay State Park
Earl Johnson, Red Clay State Park
Gloria Pack, Division of Water Supply

15 Years

Levan Gardner, Booker T. Washington State Park
Brenda Green, Paris Landing State Park
Beulah Baker, Pickwick Landing State Park
Tammy Medlen, Air Pollution Control
Mohammad Salehzadeh, Water Pollution Control
Annie Goodhue, Water Pollution Control, Nashville EFO
Robert Nakamoto, Solid Waste Management
William Money, Water Supply, Columbia EFO

20 Years

Zadie McClanahan, Fiscal Services
Mitch Erby, Fiscal Services
Albert Horton, Geology

25 Years

Leland Kell, Fall Creek Falls State Park
Wayne Gregory, Solid Waste Management, Nashville EFO
Thomas Anderson, Solid Waste Management, Jackson EFO
Jim Teeple, Ground Water Protection, Cookeville EFO

30 Years

Rickie Cline, Panther Creek State Park
John Christof, South Cumberland State Park
Jana Boshears, Environment, Knoxville EFO
Margie Braden-McNeese, Water Supply

35 Years

Jeryl Stewart, Air Pollution Control
John McClendon, Water Pollution Control, Nashville EFO

Times and Trails is published monthly by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Phil Bredesen, Governor
Jim Fyke, Commissioner

Paul Sloan, Deputy Commissioner
Larry Lance, Assistant Commissioner, Finance and Business Services
Mike Carlton, Assistant Commissioner, Parks and Conservation/Operations
Andy Lyon, Assistant Commissioner, Parks Hospitality Services and Special Events
David Owenby, Director, Public Affairs
Tisha Calabrese-Benton, Director, Communications
Niki Conolly, Editor
Jeff Law, Graphic Designer

People, Projects and Priorities

Gary Mabrey selected to represent Region 4 on ASTSWMO board

Garey Mabrey, manager of hazardous waste program in TDEC's Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Management, was recently selected to serve as the board member representing EPA Region 4 for the next three years on the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) Board of Directors.



Gary Mabrey

ASTSWMO works closely with EPA Headquarters on program implementation and policy development for all waste programs: Hazardous Waste, Solid Waste, CERCLA, UST, Brownfields, and waste issues at Federal Facilities.

ASTSWMO also works with the Environmental Council of the States and other state organizations on issues of mutual interest. There are a number of TDEC staff members already active in ASTSWMO and represent Tennessee's interests through their participation in the organization.

"I am pleased that Garey has been chosen to represent Region 4 and Tennessee on the ASTSWMO Board of Directors," said Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan. "This board will be addressing a number of key waste handling, reduction and remediation issues over the next three years, and Garey will be a great addition. It's good for TDEC to play a leadership role on important national organizations like ASTSWMO."

Editorial Advisory Committee

Jan Compton, Johnson City Environmental Field Office
Laura Franklin, Parks and Conservation
Cheryl Gracy, Parks and Conservation
Billy Pugh, Air Pollution Control
Jennifer Watson, Water Pollution Control
Bud Yard, DOE-Oversight

Tell us what you think about *Times and Trails* at tdec.newsletter@state.tn.us.